

# MIFFLIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE



## What is a comprehensive plan?

A comprehensive plan is a long-range visioning document that helps the community manage short- and long-term land use changes, plan for future investments in parks and trails, and identify needed improvements for infrastructure like roads, water lines, and sewer lines. It is used by County and local leaders as a guide for changing local policies, shaping budgets, and coordinating with private and non-profit organizations. A county comprehensive plan allows multiple communities to collaborate on many of the same goals and can create new opportunities to better coordinate land use policies, infrastructure projects, and apply for grants.



## Vision

"Mifflin County will be a place known for its preserved history and rural character, its outdoor recreation, healthy communities and vibrant economy achieved through collaboration."

## Plan Development Timeline



**JULY – AUGUST  
2024**

- Project Kick-Off
- Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #1
- Research on Existing Conditions Complete



**AUGUST 2024 –  
JANUARY 2025**

- Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #2
- Public Survey Launched



**JANUARY –  
MARCH 2025**

- Public Survey Completed
- Focus Group Interviews Completed
- Public Engagement Summarized
- Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #3



**MARCH – JUNE  
2025**

- Develop Draft Major Plan Elements
- Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #4
- Host Public Open House



**JUNE – AUGUST  
2025**

- Develop Draft Plan
- Present Draft Plan to County Planning Commission



**AUGUST –  
SEPTEMBER 2025**

- Plan Approval Pursuant to Municipalities Planning Code

**FOR UPDATES AND TO LEARN MORE: [WEBSITE TBD.COM](https://www.mifflincounty.com/website-tbd.com)**

# What We Learned About Mifflin County



The team analyzed demographic, housing, and economic trends in Mifflin County using data from the U.S. Census Bureau and PennDOT to inform planning recommendations. SEDA-COG, a regional economic development group, was also referenced.



## Demographics

- **Population Decline:** Down 1.19% since 2013; 46,146 total residents as of 2022.
- **Population Density:** Highest near Lewistown, Burnham, Belleville, and Milroy.
- **Aging Population:** Median age is 43.3; 16% increase in residents 65+ over the past decade.
- **Diversity:** 96% white in 2022 (down from 98% in 2013); multiracial and Hispanic/Latino populations are growing (up to 2%).



## Housing

- **Vacancy Rate:** 11.7% (higher than state and national averages).
- **Renter-Occupied Units:** 28.5% in 2022, up from 26.4% in 2013.
- **Affordability:** Median home value is \$126,400; ~39% of both renters and homeowners are cost-burdened. (Cost burdened: 30% of income or more dedicated towards rent or mortgage)



## Income & Employment

- **Median Income:** \$58,012—lower than state and national medians.
- **Poverty:** 18.5% of households live below the Federal Poverty Line.
- **Commuting:** Many residents work outside the county (e.g., State College, Harrisburg, Altoona).
- **Top Employment Sectors:** Manufacturing, healthcare, retail, and education.



## Transportation

- **Traffic:** US 322 sees ~30,000 vehicles daily.
- **Safety:** Average of 393 crashes, 7 fatalities, and 27 suspected serious injuries annually (2019–2023); six crash hot spots identified.